

Dear Fish and Wildlife:

I am unable to attend the public meetings but I wanted to express our support for the public access and wildlife preservation aspects of the draft EIS/CCP for the Upper Miss Refuge. I am the City Manager of the City of Guttenberg, Iowa. We are currently working on improving public access from the community to the River and from the River to the Community via a Marina and Riverfront Improvements.

In cooperation with the Fish and Wildlife office in McGregor, we have also developed a low impact walking trail south of and adjacent to our proposed Marina. This appears to be in the area of the hiking trail proposed for the area just south of the Guttenberg South Landing (our proposed Marina is just north of this landing.)

Again, I want to state that the City and the Riverfront Development Task Force is in full support of improved public access AND Wildlife preservation. I know that sometimes these two goals can be contradictory but that the two can be combined in a low impact manner that will enhance the publics perception (and subsequently funding) of the Refuge and surrounding areas.

Tom Blake
City Manager
Guttenberg, Iowa